

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A solid-state image pickup element comprising:  
a plurality of pixel blocks each having a  
plurality of photoelectric conversion elements, a  
5 plurality of transfer switches for transferring signals  
from said respective photoelectric conversion elements,  
and a common amplifier for receiving signals from said  
plurality of transfer switches; and  
a scanning circuit for outputting a scanning clock  
10 for each pixel block.
2. An element according to claim 1, wherein said  
scanning circuit includes a shift register.
- 15 3. An element according to claim 1, wherein said  
scanning circuit includes a decoder.
- 20 4. An element according to claim 1, further  
comprising an operation processing circuit for  
receiving a plurality of transfer clocks corresponding  
to said plurality of transfer switches in said pixel  
block, performing operation processing for the scanning  
clock output from said scanning circuit and the  
plurality of transfer clocks, and supplying processed  
25 signals as clocks for driving said plurality of  
transfer switches.

5. An element according to claim 4, further comprising a decoder for converting one transfer clock input into a plurality of transfer clock inputs corresponding to said plurality of transfer switches in said pixel block and inputting the plurality of transfer clock inputs to said operation processing circuit.

6. An element according to claim 4, wherein said operation processing circuit includes an AND operation processing circuit for receiving the scanning clock and the transfer clock.

7. An element according to claim 5, wherein said operation processing circuit includes an AND operation processing circuit for receiving the scanning clock and the transfer clock.

8. An element according to claim 4, wherein said operation processing circuit includes an OR operation processing circuit for receiving the scanning clock and the transfer clock.

9. An element according to claim 5, wherein said operation processing circuit includes an OR operation processing circuit for receiving the scanning clock and the transfer clock.

10. An element according to claim 4, wherein  
when said plurality of transfer switches of said  
pixel block are set as a plurality of first transfer  
switches, said operation processing circuit is formed  
5 from a plurality of second transfer switches,  
the scanning clock is input to gates of said  
plurality of second transfer switches, and  
the transfer clock inputs are supplied to said  
first transfer switches via said second transfer  
10 switches.

11. An element according to claim 5, wherein  
when said plurality of transfer switches of said  
pixel blocks are set as a plurality of first transfer  
15 switches, said operation processing circuit is formed  
from a plurality of second transfer switches,  
the scanning clock is input to gates of said  
plurality of second transfer switches, and  
the transfer clock inputs are supplied to said  
20 first transfer switches via said second transfer  
switches.

12. An element according to claim 1, further  
comprising:  
25 a reset switch arranged in each pixel block to  
reset a signal input portion; and

an operation processing circuit for receiving a reset clock input, performing arithmetic processing for the scanning clock and the reset clock input, and supplying a processed signal as a clock for driving said reset switch.

13. An element according to claim 1, further comprising:

10 a selection switch arranged in each pixel block to select said pixel block; and

an operation processing circuit for receiving a selection clock input, performing arithmetic processing for the scanning clock and the selection clock input, and supplying a processed signal as a clock for driving said selection switch.

14. An image pickup apparatus comprising:

said solid-state image pickup element defined in claim 1;

20 an optical system for forming light into an image on said solid-state image pickup element; and

a signal processing circuit for processing an output signal from said solid-state image pickup element.